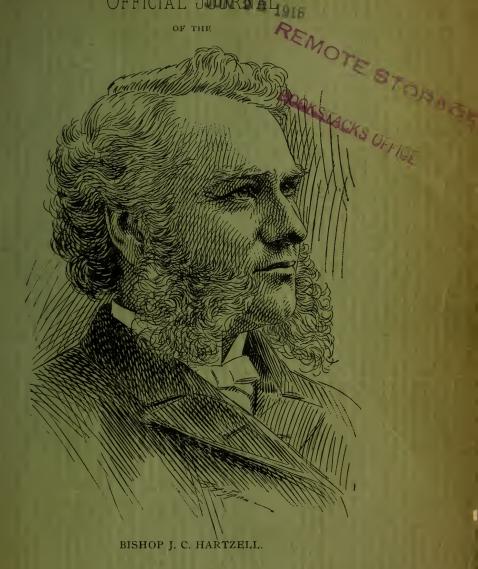
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OFFICIAL JOURNAL 1916



Liberia Annual Conference
1904



### Official Journal

of the



# Liberia

# Annual Conference

Held in

Monrovia, Liberia
January 20-26

1904

Bishop J. C. HARTZELL, D. D., L.L.D., President Rev. C. ALEXANDER LINCOLN, Secretary

> Monrovia, Liberia: Methodist Mission Press

### OFFICIAL JOURNAL.

On the sixth day's session, the following resolutions were adopted:

- 1. Resolved, That the Secretary of the Conference be and is hereby authorized to publish the proceedings of the Conference in pamphlet form.
- 2. Resolved, That the Secretary edit all the reports made to the Conference.
- 3. Resolved, That the printed copy of the Journal of the Liberia Annual Conference be, and is hereby made the official Journal of said Conference.

JOSEPH C. HARTZELL, President. C. ALEX. LINCOLN, Secretary.

Monrovia, Liberia, Jan. 26, 1904.

### Officers and Committees for 1904.

### President.

Bishop J. C. Hartzell, D.D., LL.D.

### Secretary,

C. Alexander Lincoln, B.D.

Assistant Secretaries,

Ashford L. Sims, B.D., Ulysses S. Ware, Joseph H.Davis.

### Statistical Secretary,

John A. Simpson, B.D.

### Assistant Statistical Secretaries,

Walter F. Hawkins, John L. Harrow, Thomas J. King.

Treasurer,

Abraham L. Buhwalter.

Assistant Treasurer,

William H. Carter.

### Standing Committees for 1904.

On Public Worship.—W. T. Hagan, C. A. Lincoln.

On Missions.—The Presiding Elders, A. P. Camphor.

On Temperance.—H. H. Evans, U. S. Ware, J. B. Robertson.
On District Conference Minutes.—H. H. Evans, E. R. Gravelly, W. H. Carter, P. E. Walker.

On Education and Conference Seminaries.—The Presiding Elders, A. P. Camphor, W. P. Kennedy, J. A. Foust, J. A. Simpson.

On Fraternal Relations.—W. P. Kennedy, B. K. McKeever, J. A. Simpson, W. H.

On Epworth League.—J. A. Foust, J. A. Simpson, A. L. Sims. On Sunday Schools.—J. A. Simpson, W. H. Carter, U. S. Ware, E. R. Gravelly, P. T. Barker.

On Printing Conference Minutes.—The Secretaries and A. P. Camphor. On Conference Resolutions.—The Presiding Elders, W. P. Kennedy.

On Auditing Presiding Elders' Accounts.—A. L. Sims, W. H. Carter, U. S. Ware.

On Complimentary Resolutions.—C. A. Lincoln, W. P. Kennedy, J. A. Simpson.

On Memoirs.-Kennedy, W. H. Carter, U. S. Ware and J. M. Perkins.

### Conference Board of Examiners.

J. C. Sherrill, President; A. P. Camphor, Registrar; J. A. Simpson, J. A. Foust, W. P. Kennedy.

### To Preach Special Sermons for 1904.

Introductory.—F. C. Holderness.

On Missions .- J. C. Sherrill.

On Education.—C. A. Lincoln.

On Sunday Schools .- W. F. Hawkins.

On the Christian Ministry.—J. A. Foust.
On Conversion among the Heathen.—J. M. L. Harrow.
On Regeneration, the Christian Doctrine and Experience.—J. E. Clarke.

On General Conference, 1904.—A. P. Camphor. Examining Committee of College of West Africa.—A. L. Sims, C. A. Lin-

coln, J. C. Sherrill, W. T. Hagan, F. C. Holderness, Conference Visitors, College of West Africa.—J. E. Clarke, W. H. Carter, W. P. Kennedy, J. A. Simpson, J. J. Powell.

# Roll of Members, Probationers, Ministerial Supplies, and Lay Assistants in Liberia.

### Full Members.

William P. Kennedy, William T. Hagan, Gabriel W. Parker, Francis C. Holderness, Riden Boyce, Charles B. McLain, Prince E. Walker, Joseph E. Clarke, James B. Robertson, Benjamin K. McKeever, John J. Powell, Harrington H. Evans, Alexander P. Camphor, Cornelius A. Lincoln, Ashford L. Sims, Joseph C. Sherrill, William H.Carter, John A.Simpson, James A. Foust, Edward B. Mitchell, Philip T. Barker, John D. Stryker, Thomas J. King, John L. Harrow, Ulma L. Walker, Ulysses S. Ware, Eugene R. Gravelly, John M. Perkins, James M. Gross, Nicholas B. Whitfield, Walter F. Hawkins Abraham L. Buhwalter.—33.

### Probationers.

Lee Anderson, Joseph H. Davis, Richeulin V. Richards, Thomas M. Hill, Samuel E. S. Payne, Alexander Tubman, Gabriel W. Parker, Jr.—7.

### Ministerial Supplies.

Andrew Snorton, Howard L. Porterfield, James T. Williams, Thomas H. Clarke, Shelby R. Miller, W. H. Bastian, Benjamin Lewis, C. A. Minor, Phillip Harris, Z. B. Roberts, Jacob A. Hueston, A. M. Harris, G. H. Gray, G. W. Williams.—14.

### Lay Teachers and Assistants.

Mrs. H. A. M. Crawford, Mrs. M. A. R. Camphor, F. M. Allen, Mrs. Amanda Foust, J. B. McGill, Mrs. L. A. Page, Mrs. F. A. M. McGill, Mrs. E. E. Powell, Mrs. A. E. Hagan, Mrs. M. A. S. Ragland, Mrs. E. F. Russ, Mrs. Fredrica Robertson, Mrs. M. C. Simpson, Mrs. F. B. Ashton, T. A. Rose, D. W. Hermon, J. B. Gray, Wesley Fish, Jasper Grant, Daniel Meter, G. B. Grando, Nimly Taylor, E. W. N. Valentine, Mrs. Jessie Perkins, J. T. Dayrell, George Stevens, E. A. Bedell, David N. Baker, Miss Ella B. Dowell, Miss Ida M. Sharp, T. R. McWilliams, Mrs. M. E. Stryker, John Starks, Mrs. Catherine Jackson, Miss Agnes McAllister.—36.

### Missionaries on Furlough.

Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Sherrill, Mr. and Mrs. U. L. Walker, Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Davis.

#### Summary,

Number of Full Members, Number of Probationers, Number of Ministerial Supplies - Number of Lay Teachers and Assistants,	33 7 14 36
Number of Missionaries on furlough,	90

not including J. C. Sherrill and U. L. Walker as they are unmbered among the full members in the Conference.

### Disciplinary Questions.

1. Who have been received by transfer and from what Conference?

Answer. A. L. Buhwalter from the Congo Mission Conference.

2. Who have been re-admitted?

Ans. None.

3. Who have been received on Credentials, and from what Churches? Ans. None.

4. Who have been received on Trial?

(a) In studies of the First Year.

Ans. Gabriel W. Parker, Jr., and Alexander Tubman.

5. Who have been continued on Trial?

(a) In studies of the First Year.

Ans. Lee Anderson, Richeulin V. Richards, Thomas M. Hill, Samuel E. S. Payne.

(b) In studies of the Second Year.

Ans. Joseph H. Davis.

6. Who have been discontinued?

Ans. None.

7. Who have been admitted to full membership?

(a) Elected and Ordained Deacons this year.

Aus. Abraham L. Buhwalter.

(b) Elected and Ordained Deacons previously.

Ans. Nicholas B. Whitfield and Walter F. Hawkins.

8. What Members are in the Studies of the Third Year?

(a) Admitted into Full Membership this year.

Ans. Walter F. Hawkins, Nicholas B. Whitfield, Abraham L. Buhwalter.

(b) Admitted into Full Membership previously.

Ans. Thomas J. King, John M. Perkins, James M. Gross.

9. What Members are in the Studies of the Fourth Year?

Ans. Philip T. Barker, Ulysses S. Ware, Eugene R. Gravelly.

10. What Members have completed the Conference Course of Study?

Ans. Elected and Ordained Elders this year. John M. L. Harrow, and John D. Stryker. Elected and Ordained Elders, previously. Edward B. Mitchell.

11. What others have been Elected and Ordained Deacons?

(a) As Local Preachers.

Ans. George W. Williams.

12. What others have been Elected and Ordained Elders?

(a) As Local Deacons.

Ans. Alexander Tubman.

13. Was the Character of each Preacher examined?

Ans. This was carefully attended to as the name of each preacher was called in open Conference.

14. Who have been Transferred and to what Conference?

Ans. Eugene R. Gravelly to —— Conference in America.

15. Who have died?

Ans. None.

16. Who have been Located at their own request?

Ans. None.

17. Who have Located?

Ans. None.

18. Who have withdrawn?

Ans. None.

19. Who have been permitted to withdraw under Charges or Complaints?

Ans. None.

20. Who have been Expelled?

Ans. I. N. Holder.

21. What other personal Notation should be made?

The Orders of James M. Gross from the A. M. E. Church were recognized.

22. Who are the Supernumerary Preachers?

Ans. Benjamin K. McKeever.

23. Who are the Superannuated Preachers?

Ans. Charles B. McLain and Gabriel W. Parker, Sr.

24. Who are the Triers of Appeals?

Ans. None.

25. What is the Statistical Report for this year?

Ans. See Statistical Report.

26. What is the Aggregate of the Benevolent Collections ordered by the General Conference, as reported by the Conference Treasurer?

Ans. Two hundred and forty-five dollars and forty-five cents.

27. What are the Claims on the Conference Funa?

Ans. Four hundred and ten dollars.

28. What has been received on these claims and how has it been applied?

Ans. See Conference Stewards' Report.

29. Where are the Preachers Stationed?

Ans. See Appointments for 1904.

30. Where shall the next Conference be held?

Ans. Sinoe.

## Appointments for 1904.

(ALL POST OFFICE ADDRESSES ARE IN LIBERIA UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED.) \* A star indicates not members of the Annual Conference.

W. T. Hagan, Presiding Elder.

(P. O. Monrovia, Liberia.)

Central and Lower Buchanan-N. B. Whitfield; Mrs. M. A. S. Ragland,\* teacher.

Cape Mount-Benjamin Lewis.\*

DeCoursev Mission—To be Supplied.

Edina-E.B. Mitchell, Mrs.L. A. Page,\* teacher.

Fortsville and Fortsville Mission-U.S. Ware.

Farmington-J. T. Williams.\*

Hartford and Bexley-Lee Anderson, T. M. Hill,\* teacher.

Johsonville and Barnesville--To be Supplied, T. A. Rose,\* teacher.

Marshall-G. W. Williams.\*

Mt. Olive and Paynesville-J. J. Powell, J. D. Stryker, Mrs. M. E. Stryker,\* teacher, Mrs. E. E. Powell,\* teacher, Phillip Harris,\* interpreter.

First Church-C. A. Lincoln.

Monrovia:

Krootown-D. W. Hermon,\* Nimly Taylor,\*

New Georgia-Wm. H. Bastian.\* Paynesburg--Thomas J. King. Upper Buchanan-W. P. Kennedy.

College of West Africa-A. P. Camphor, President; W. F. Hawkins, teacher of Latin and Greek: members of Monrovia Quarterly Conference. Mrs. A. P. Camphor,\* preceptress, and teacher of Household Economics; T. R. McWilliams,\* teacher of Science; Ella B. Dowell,\* teacher of German and Mathematics; Ida M. Sharp,\* teacher of Music; F. M. Allen,\* Superintendent of Printing.

### Monrovia and Bassa District. | Since and Cape Palmas Districts.

Presiding Elder—To be Supplied.

Blue Barrow—To be Supplied.

Bluntsville-S. R. Miller.\*

Greenville-J. A. Simpson, Mrs. J. A. Simpson,\* teacher.

Beulah Mission—Z. B. Roberts,\* Mrs. E. F. Russ, \* teacher.

Lexington--C. A. Minor.\*

Louisiana--P. E. Walker.

Sinoe Industrial School--J. B. Robertson, Mrs. J. B. Robertson,\* teacher.

Barraka Mission -- I. M. Perkins, Mrs. Jessie Perkins,\* Jasper Grant,\* John Stark.\*

Beabo-To be Supplied.

Bigtown and Plukey--H. H. Evans, Mrs. F. B. Ashton.\*

Mt. Scott, Cavalla and Rocktown--J.A. Foust, E. W. N. Valentine,\* Edward A. Bedell.\*

Webbo Station-David Baker.\*

Grand Sess-George B. Grando.\*

Garraway--J. L. M. Harrow, A. L. Buhwalter, Miss Agnes McAllister,\* Wesley Fish,\* Daniel Meter.\*

Tubmantown-A. Tubman.

Pedebo--J. B. Gray,\* J. H. Gray,\* Geo. Stevens.\*

Jacksonville--Mrs. Catherine Jackson,\* teacher.

Cape Palmas Seminary—J. A. Foust, Principal, Joseph T. Dayrell,\* teacher, Mrs. J. A. Foust,\* teacher.

### St. Paul River District.

Ashford L. Sims, Presiding Elder.

(P. O. Monrovia, Liberia.)

Bensonville and Pesseh Mission—Riden Boyce, H. L. Porterfield.\*

Brewerville and Virginia—F. C. Holderness, J. H. Davis.

Caldwell—W. H. Carter, S. E. S. Payne, Mrs. C. R. Clark,\* teacher.

Crawford Mission — Mrs. H. A. M. Crawford.\*

Clay-Ashland—Augustus Hueston,\* R. V. Richards.

Careysburg and Newland—To be Supplied, Mrs. W. T. Hagan,\* teacher.

Crozierville-J. E. Clark.

Harrisburg-A. M. Harris.\*

Millsburg-P. T. Barker.

Robertsville-T. H. Clark.\*

Sasstown—A. Snorton,\* G. W. Parker, Jr., teacher.

White Plains—J. M. Gross.
Liberia Industrial School—J. C. Sherrill, principal; J. B. McGill, industrial work; Mrs. J. B. McGill,\* preceptress.

E. R. Gravelly transferred to Conference in America.

Missionaries on furlough—J. C. Sherrill and wife, U. L. Walker and wife, J. A. Davis and wife.



# Daily Proceedings

### First Day's Session, Wednesday, January 20, 1904

The Seventy-first Session of the Liberia Annual Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, met in the Monrovia Methodist Episcopal Church, Monrovia, Liberia, Wednesday, January 20th, 1904. Bishop J. C. Hartzell, presiding.

Hymn 798 was announced by the Bishop and sung. J. B. Robertson led the Conference in prayer.

The thirty-second chapter of Isaiah and the thirteenth Religious chapter of First Corinthians were read by the Bishop as the Scripture lessons. Hymn 767 was announced by W. T. Hagan and sung; after which J. J. Powell led the Conference in prayer.

The Secretary of the last Conference - C. A. Lincoln— Roll Call called the roll of the Conference, at which time twentyone Full Members, five Probationers, five Ministerial Supplies and ten Lay Teachers and Assistants answered to the roll as follows:—Members—William P. Kennedy, William T. Hagan, Gabriel W. Parker, Sr., Francis C. Holderness, Riden Boyce, Joseph E. Clarke, James B. Robertson, John J. Powell, Harrington H. Evans, Alexander P. Camphor, Cornelius A. Lincoln, Ashford L. Sims, John A. Simpson, James A. Foust, Philip T. Barker, Thomas J. King, John L. Harrow, Ulysses S. Ware, Eugene R. Gravelly, John M. Perkins and James M. Gross.—21.

Probationers—Nicholas B. Whitfield, Lee Anderson, Walter F. Hawkins, Joseph H. Davis, Thomas M. Hill. -5.

Ministerial Supplies-Andrew Snorton, Howard L. Porterfield, Thomas H. Clarke, Alexander Tubman. -4.

Lay Teachers-Mrs. M. A. R. Camphor, Mrs. Amanda Foust, J. B. McGill, Mrs. F. A. M. McGill, G. B. Gran-60, E. W. N. Valentine, Mrs. Jessie Perkins, J. T. Dayrell, E. A. Bedell, David N. Baker.—10.

Election of Secretary

Assistant Secretaries C. A. Lincoln was on motion of W. T. Hagan, elected Secretary with the privilege of nominating his Assistants. A. L. Sims, U. S. Ware and J. H. Davis were nominated, and on motion of W. T. Hagan, elected Assistant Secretaries.

Statistica1

John A. Simpson was on motion of A. P. Camphor, elected Statistical Secretary, with the privilege of nominating his Assistants.

W. F. Hawkins, J. L. Harrow and T. J. King were nominated, and on motion of A. P. Camphor, elected As-

Hawkins

Harrow

King

Conference Treasurer sistant Statistical Secretaries.

On motion of C. A Lincoln, W. P. Kennedy was elected Conference Treasurer, with the privilege of nominating his Assistants.

A. I. Buhwalter

A. L. Buhwalter was nominated, and on motion of C. A. Lincoln, elected Assistant Conference Treasurer.

On motion of W. T. Hagan, the hours of business be

Hours of Business

Business
Bar of
Conference

from 10 a. m. to 1 p. m. daily.

On motion of W. T. Hagan, the third pew from the

List of Standing Committees Read and Approved altar constitute the Bar of the Conference.

The following list of Standing Committees for 1904 was read by the Bishop, and on motion of A. P. Camphor

approved:—
Public Worship.—C. A. Lincoln, W. T. Hagan.

On Missions — The Presiding Elders, A. P. Camphor. On Temperance.—H. H. Evans, U. S. Ware, J. B. Robertson.

On District Conference Minutes.—H. H. Evans, E. R. Gravelly, W. H. Carter, P. E. Walker.

On Education and Conference Seminaries.—The Presiding Elders, A. P. Camphor, W. P. Kennedy, J. A. Foust, J. A. Simpson.

On Fraternal Relations. -- W. P. Kennedy, B. K. Mc-Keever, J. A. Simpson, W. H. Carter

On Epworth League.—J. A. Foust, J. A. Simpson, A. L. Sims.

On Sunday Schools.—J. A. Simpson, W. H. Carter, U. S. Ware, E. R. Gravelly, P. T. Barker.

On Printing Conference Minutes.—A. P. Camphor and the Secretaries.

On Conference Relations.—The Presiding Elders, W. P. Kennedy.

On Auditing Presiding Elders' Accounts.—A. L. Sims W. H. Carter, U. S. Ware.

On Complimentary Resolutions.-C. A. Lincoln, W. P. Kennedy, J. A. Simpson.

On Memoirs. - W. H. Carter, U. S. Ware, J. M. Perkins.

Conference Board of Examiners.—J. C. Sherill, President; A. P. Camphor, Registrar; W. P. Kennedy, J. A. Simpson, J. A. Foust, and the Presiding Elders.

On motion of W. T. Hagan, all visiting Ministers from Visiting other Churches that are in fraternal relation with the Methodist Episcopal Church, be invited to seats within the Bar of the Conference.

Ministers

His Excellency Dr. Ernest Lyon, D. D., Minister Resi- Introductions dent and Consul General of the United States of America, near the Government of Liberia, Dr. W. F. Gibson, D. D., senior surviving Minister of the Baptist Denomination in Liberia, Rev. L. C. Curtis, B. D., Presiding Elder of the A. M. E. Church in Liberia, Rev. Wilson S. Naylor, S. T. B., Traveling Companion of Bishop Hartzell, Prof. T. R. Williams, B. S., Professor of Science in the College of West Africa, and Hon. W. E. Dennis, Consul for Belgium at Monrovia, were introduced to the Conference by the Bishop.

Short addresses were made to the Conference by Revs. Addresses L. C. Curtis, B, D., W. F. Gibson, D. D., Ernest Lyon, D. D., and Z. B. Roberts, LL. D., Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of the Republic of Liberia, who was also introduced.

On the suggestion of the Bishop, W. T. Hagan moved that the Rev. Wilson S. Naylor, S. T. B., be invited to en- Invitation to tertain the Conference with three lectures on the subject of "Systematic Theology," from half past 12 o'clock to 1 p. m., on Thursday, Friday and Saturday, of this week.

The Bishop here announced the organization of the Conference as being completed.

At this stage of the proceedings, C. A. Lincoln read a series of resolutions relative to Bishop Hartzell, as follows:

Rev. Naylor

Organization Completed

Resolution

Whereas, in the providence of Almighty God the Rev. Joseph Crane Hartzell, D. D., L.L. D. was through the General Conference of 1896, called to the distinguished post of the Bishopric of the Methodist Episcopal Foreign Mission Field in Africa, on the retiring of that for Apostolic Missionary sage and hero, the late Rev. Bishop William Taylor, D. D., Missionary Bishop of Africa; and

Whereas, in answer to this call through that ever memorable General Conference of 1896, to Africa, the said Bishop Hartzell did wholly, truly and solely present himself to his God and Church upon the altar of Episcopal Consecration to spend the residue of his life in the development of this great continent along the lines of Christianity, education and civilization; and

Whereas, he has been able to successfully spend two quadrenniums of Episcopal supervision over this Foreign Mission Field, and

Whereas, Liberia as a State has been made the grateful recipient of this good man's sagacious, dignified and magnanimous heart and services for the future uplifting and betterment of the Church, State and Race; and

Whereas, the Methodist Episcopal Church in America has always delighted in recognizing the kindred interest and relation which exist between these two great countries—Africa and America—by the appropriation of funds and gifts of valuable lives, to be used in the prosecution of missionary enterprise in Liberia, Africa. Therefore be it

Resolved, 1st.—That this Conference record an expression of praise and thanksgiving to Almighty God for the preservation of the life of our beloved Bishop J. C. Hartzell through the close of this second quadrennium of his Episcopal career in the continent of Africa, where he has been able to accomplish much permanent good for the people of the Negro race in general. That he has done much good along the line of civil politics as well as in the Church of the land, is a stubborn fact which cannot be truthfully denied. For this we do as a Church, on behalf of the good and generous hearted people of Liberia, offer to Bishop Hartzell in these sentiments, our profoundest gratitude, and a cordial welcome among us again.

Resolved, 2nd.—That we do also by a unanimous vote, convey to the heart of this great and wise-hearted Christian gentleman and Bishop, our official indorsement of his work done in Liberia as the Missionary Bishop of the Methodist Episcopal Church in Africa.

Resolved, 3rd.—That we hereby record our hearty congratulation to the Methodist Episcopal Chuch for such a royal selection of Bishop Hartzell for Africa. Further, that we also commend him to the throne of Divine favor where he may be endowed with unction and wisdom in order to do more in the coming years of life, for the further advancement of Christ's kingdom upon earth. That his days be prolonged for future usefulness, to God, Africa and humanity in general.

Further, that the Methodist Episcopal Church will ever regard Bishop J. C. Hartzell a competent servant, worthy of her continued confidence and trust. And that she may be always willing and ready to render him invaluable assistance, to do well and faithfully the task she has committed into his hands.

C. A. LINCOLN.

On motion of C. A. Lincoln, the above resolution was Adoption of adopted.

Resolution

An invitation was extended to the Bishop and Confer- Invitation from ence in general by Dr. and Mrs. A. P. Camphor to lunch- A. P. Camphor eon at 4:30 p. m., on Thursday, 21st ensuing. On motion of C. A. Lincoln, the invitation was most cordially accepted.

The Bishop expressed his appreciation for the sentiments laid in the resolutions adopted by the Conference concerning himself; also spoke of his travels and work on the Western and Eastern coasts of Africa; the successful advancement of the work in the two Conferences, together with a brief review of the two quadrenniums of his episcopate in Africa. He closed with expressions of praise and thanksgiving to Almighty God, through whom alone, he has been able to accomplish for the Church and Africa, what has been done.

Address

The following Disciplinary Questions were taken up:-Was the Character of each Preacher examined?

Ouestion Thirteen

The names of W. T. Hagan, Presiding Elder of the Bassa Character of Elders Passed and Monrovia District, was called, and his character passed.

The names of the following Elders were called, and their characters passed:

W. P. Kennedy, F. C. Holderness, Riden Boyce, P. E. Walker, Joseph E. Clarke, J. B. Robertson, B. K. Mc-Keever, J. J. Powell, H. H. Evans, A. P. Camphor, C. A. Lincoln, A. L. Sims, J. C. Sherrill, \* W. H. Carter, J. A. Simpson, J. A. Foust, Edward B. Mitchell.

Question Twenty-third was taken up.

Who are the Superannuated Preachers?

Superannuates

Answer, C. B. McLain and G. W. Parker. Their G. W. Parker

On furlough in America.

characters were severally passed and each made a short speech before the Conference.

Question 13 resumed.

I. N. Holder

The name of I. N. Holder, Presiding Elder of the St. Paul River District, was called.

Bishop's Announcement Of Charges The Bishop stated that he had in hand the proceedings of a Committee of Invesitgation in his case and that charges of a serious character have been preferred against him for immorality.

W. T. Hagan

On motion of W. T. Hagan, Conference directed the appointment of a select number to try the case. The Bishop appointed the following:—J. B. Robertson, H. H. Evans, J. A. Foust, J. M. Perkins, J. L. Harrow, P. E. Walker, J. J. Powell, J. E. Clarke and C. B. McLain.

Chairman

The Bishop appointed W. P. Kennedy Chairman of the Select Number.

Counsellors

F. C. Holderness is recognised as Counsel for the Church and W. H. Carter his Assistant.

Secretary

A. L. Sims is recognised as Counsel for the Accused. U. S. Ware, one of the Conference Assistant Secretaries, is appointed Secretary to the Trial.

Time Extended

The time for adjournment was extended.

A. L. Buhwalter

The Transfer of Abraham L. Buhwalter from the Congo Mission Conference to the Liberia Annual Conference was announced by the Bishop. He is a probationer in the second year.

Adjournment

On motion, Conference adjourned till tonight 7 o'clock, to hear the Introductory Sermon by A. I. Sims, and to attend to other business.

### EVENING SESSION

Evening Session Conference met pursuant to adjournment. Bishop Hartzell presiding.

A. I. Sims announced hymn 316 which was sung. U. S. Ware led in prayer.

Religious Exercises Scripture lessons were read from Pslam 111 and 2nd Peter, 3 chapter, by A. L. Sims. Hymn 321 was announced by W. H. Carter, and sung. After which A. L. Sims announced as his text 2 Peter 3: 15—"Grow in Grace." Theme: "Growth," from which he delivered a

very edifying discourse. W. H. Carter followed with praver.

The Minutes of the forenoon session were read, and on Minutes Read motion, approved.

The roll of absentees was called, and when the following Roll of additional answers were made:

Absentees

Full Members-P. E. Walker, W. H. Carter, J. D. Stryker.—3.

Probationers-R. V. Richards, S. E. S. Payne. -2.

Ministerial Supplies -- C. A. Minor. -- I.

Lay Teachers-Mrs. E. E. Powell, Mrs. E. R. Gravelly. Mrs. M. C. Simpson, Mrs. F. B. Ashton, T. A. Rose, D. W. Hermon, Nimly Taylor.—7.

On motion of A. P. Camphor, the further calling of the Suspension of Further Conference roll was dispensed with.

Roll Call

The Committee on Religious Exercises announced J. H. Davis preaching tomorrow morning at 7 o'clock by J. H. Davis.

On motion of H. H. Evans, Conference adjourned to Adjournment meet tomorrow 10 a.m.

Long metre Doxology was sung, and Benediction pronounced by the Bishop.

### Second Day's Session, Thursday, January 21

Conference met pursuant to adjournment, Bishop Opening Hartzell in the chair.

Religious exercises were conducted by Ulysses S. Ware Religious Exercises and G. W. Parker, Sr.

Minutes of yesterday's Session were read, and on mo- Minutes Read tion approved.

The following letters of Fraternal Greetings, were pre- Letters of Fraternal sented to the Committee on Fraternal Relations: Greetings

### From Lutheran Confernce.

To the Methodist Episcopal Annual Conference of Liberia.

Greeting:

This paper witnesseth that the bearer, Rev. J. H. Straw, is duly eccredited to bear to your Christian body the fraternal greetings and Godspeed of the Lutheran Conference of Liberia. May he be both dispenser and recipient of blessings.

We have just closed an interesting and profitable session of our Conference. We have assurance that the great Head of the Church

has recognized us as co-laborers during the year just ended and has added His blessings.

We be peak for you at our Father's Throne a clear and rich manifestation of Divine Presence in your assembly with a fullness of Wisdom and Power in your deliberations.

Our brother is instructed to bring to the attention of your body a matter which we consider of great importance in the cause of Him "whose we are and whom we serve." We are confident that it will receive due Christian consideration at your hands.

With fervent prayer for rich fruitage in that portion of the Master's vineyard intrusted to your care, we remain

Cordially and fraternally yours,

WILL M. BECK,

Chairman of Lutheran Conference of Liberia.

### From Providence Baptist Association

To the Liberia Annual Conference.

Dear Brethren,

The revolution of time has through the providence of our Benificent Father brought the happy period for you to assemble in your 71st session, for which we join you in thanksgiving to Him, and pray that your present session as the past, may prove a blessing to the cause of our Lord Jesus.

We as workers in the same cause know the trials, and conflicts that lie in your pathway are able to sympathise with you, and congratulate you on your success through the last year.

We regret very much to say, since your last session we have lost many faithful servants of Christ in this part of His army. They have finished their work, and the Master has called them to rest.

Notwithstanding our loss has been great, yet, relying on the promise of Him who said, "lo I am with you alway," we feel encouraged to labor on in the vineyard of our Lord.

This is to accredit our dear brother Rev. A. C. Harris as our fraternal delegate to bear to you our Christian greetings. We enjoyed the encouraging remarks of your delegate at our last session, in the person of Rev. F. C. Holderness.

May the God of Love and Peace be with you in all your deliberations and decisions, that your efforts may prove a blessing to the cause of Christ.

I am yours in Christion love,

J. A. Johnson, Cor. Sec. Providence Baptist Association.

The following petition was received from the A. M. E. Z. Church, Brewerville and read. On motion it was referred to the Committee on Fraternal Relations.

Petition from A.M.E.Z.Church, Brewerville

### From A. M. E. Zion Church

To the Liberia Annual Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church in session for 1904.

I, recognizing the fact that the Methodist Episcopal Church is the mother of all Methodist Denominations, have taken this opportunity to write your honorable body for Fraternal Relations.

Being advised by our Bishop to send you a letter asking for Fraternal Relations I have taken the liberty on behalf of the African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church of Brewerville to send you this letter. We feel that we should have been in Fraternal Relations long since, but for some reason we have not asked same before. Knowing that you are the Mother Church of Methodism, over the world, we thought it no more than right to pay you due homage and respect God in His all wise Providence has brought about a change and now we take this opportunity to come in fraternal relations with

We therefore humble ourselves to you and ask for friendly intercourse and extend to you, our Mother, Fraternal Greetings. "Where there is union, there is strength." We are only about forty-five and hope that you will consider our humble petition.

> L. B. DUDLEY, Pastor.

WILLIAM M. HARDY, Secretary.

Revs. J. H. Straw from the Liberia Lutheran Mission Introductions Conference, Millsburg, St. Paul River, A. C. Harris, from the Providence Baptist Association of Montserrado County, were introduced to the Conference by the Bishop, as the Fraternal Delegates from their several churches.

They entertained the Conference with well prepared Addresses addresses.

Rev. L. B. Dudley, of the A. M. E. Z. Church was introduced. He addressed the Conference in an able manner.

Dudley

Rev. J. H. Straw stated that his Conference contemplates petitioning the National Legislature for the passage Sabbath Observance of an Act providing for a strict observance of the Sabbath. He requested the Conference's indorsement of the same by oppointing a Committee to confer with the Liberia Lutheran Conference on this subject. On motion of A. L. Sims, the Bishop appointed: W. H. Carter, W. T. Hagan, W. F. Hawkins that Committee.

W. T. Hagan, Presiding Elder of the Bassa and Monroyia District, read his report for the year.

Presiding Elder Hagan Reports

Question Seven of the Discipline was taken up, namely, Who have been admitted into Full Membership?

Elected and Ordained Deacons.

A. L. Buhwalter

The name of Abraham L. Buhwalter was called. The Committee on Examination reported that he passed a satisfactory examination in studies of the First year. On motion his character was passed, he was received into full membership, elected to Deacou's Orders, and advanced to the Third year's Course of study. He was required to bring up the studies of the Second year.

Elected and Ordained Deacons previously.

N. B. Whitfield

The name of Nicholas B. Whitfield was called. The Committee on Examination reported that he passed a fovorable examination in studies of the First year. His character was passed, and on motion, he was received into full membership and advanced to studies of the Third year, with the understanding that he bring up his Second year's Course of studies. He is a Deacon.

W. F. Hawkins

The name of Walter F. Hawkins was called. The Committee on Examination reported that he passed a favorable examination in studies of Second year. On motion, his character passed, he was received into full membership and advanced to studies of the Third year. He is an Elder.

Question Five

Question Five was taken up.

Who have been Continued on Trial?

Lee Anderson

The name of Lee Anderson was called. He read his report. His Presiding Elder spoke favorably of him. The Committee on Examination reported that he did not pass the required examination; that his average is only 60 per cent., having only a few books prescribed in the Conference Course of Study for the First year.

On motion, his character passed, and he be continued in studies of the First year.

R. V. Richards S. E. S. Payne The names of Richeulin V. Richards and Samuel E. S. Payne were called. The Committee on Examination reported that they did not appear before them for examination. On motion their characters were passed, and they were continued in studies of the First year.

The name of Thomas M. Hill was called. The Com- T. M. Hill mittee on Examination reported that he appeared before them, but having no books could not pass the required examination. On motion, his character was passed, and he be continued in studies of the First year's Course.

The Conference resolved that all young men desiring admission in the Traveling Connection on Trial be, and are hereby strictly required to pass satisfactory examination in the studies laid in the Discipline of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Conference

The Bishop commended the action taken' and urged The Bishop the young men to obtain and study the books laid down in the Discipline.

The Bishop appointed the following a Committee to call on President Barclay and ascertain of him, when he could His Excellency receive the Conference on a visit to the Executive Mansion to see him, viz: W. H. Carter, J. J. Powell and J. M. L. Harrow.

W. P. Kennedy asked to be excused as Conference Treas- w. P. Kennedy urer, and his request was granted.

Abraham L. Buhwalter was elected Conference Treasurer, W. H. Carter, Assistant.

A. I. Buhwalter W. H. Carter

As announced on yesterday the Rev. Wilson S. Naylor, S. T. B., delivered an address on Systematic Theology. At the close of this address, Conference resumed busi-

Rev. W. L. Naylor

ness. The hour of adjournment having arrived, the time was Time Extended

extended.

The Bishop called the following before the altar and questioned them as the Discipline requires for admission N. B. Whitfield into full membership in the Conference: Nicholas B. Whitfield, Walter F. Hawkins and Abraham L. Buhwalter.

and Others

On motion Conference adjourned to meet this evening Adjournment at 7 o'clock.

The Long Metre Doxology was sung and benediction pronounced by Dr. Lyon.

### EVENING SESSION

Conference met this 7 p. m., pursuant to adjournment, Evening to hear the sermon on Education and receive reports from

Session.

Educational Anniversary the Committee on Education, and also to attend to other business.

Hymn 138 was announced by J. A. Foust and sung. W. H. Carter followed with prayer.

J. A. Foust

Hymn 136 was announced and sung. J. A Foust announced his text from 1 Cor. 1: 21. Topic: "Christian Knowledge." After the sermon, prayer was offered by the preacher.

Addresses

A. P. Camphor and Hon. S. T. Prout followed with very befitting addresses on the subject of "Education."

Announcement

The Committee on Public Worship gave notice that Lee Anderson will preach tomorrow morning at 7: 30 o'clock.

Adjournment

On motion of H. H. Evans Conference adjourned to meet tomorrow at the hour of 10 a. m.

Long Metre Doxology was sung and benediction pronounced by the Bishop.

### Third Day's Session, Friday, January 22

Conference met pursuant to adjournment. Bishop J. C. Hartzell in the chair.

The religious exercises were conducted by the Bishop. Prayer was offered by A. Snorton, a Local Elder.

Prayer for John T. Jenkins A communication from one John T. Jenkins, formerly Exhorter on the Sinoe District, was read, asking that the Conference should pray for him, having been afflicted for six years.

J. A. Simpson

John A. Simpson was called upon to lead Conference in prayer in behalf of Bro. John T. Jenkins.

Minutes

The minutes of yesterday's forenoon session were read, and on motion approved.

Election of General Conference Delegate The time for the electing of one ministerial and reserve delegate to the General Conference, to be held at Los Angeles in May, 1904, was fixed at quarter past eleven today.

Tellers

N. D. Whitfield and W. F. Hawkins were appointed Tellers of the election.

Election

At the hour named the Conference proceeded to vote for the election of its delegates.

J. A. Simpson

On motion of J. A. Simpson, the election was to be by

ballot, and that a majority of all the votes cast constitute the election.

The vote of the Conference having been taken for the election of the Ministerial Delegate, it was found that A. P. Camphor received 16, W. T. Hagan, 7, A. L. Sims, 5, J. A. Foust, 1.

The Bishop declared that A. P. Camphor having receiv-Bishop ed a majority of votes cast, was elected the Ministerial Delegate.

A. P. Camphor

Another vote was taken, and the following was the result: A. L. Sims received 20, J. A. Simpson, 5, W. T. Hagan, 2, and G. W. Parker, Sr., 1.

The Bishop announced that A. L. Sims was duly elect- Announcement ed the Ministerial Reserve Delegate.

A discussion arose concerning Candidates for Reception on Trial into the Conference. On motion of J. A. Foust, J. A. Foust all young men entering the Conference on Trial be strictly required to pass satisfactory examinations in the course of studies laid down in the Discipline of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

B. K. McKeever asked to be granted an excuse from B. K. McKeever the session of the Conference. By common consent he was excused.

A. L. Sims read the report of I. N. Holder, Presiding I. N. Holder Elder of the St. Paul River District for 1903.

The Rev. Wilson S. Naylor delivered his second lecture Rev. w. s. on Systematic Theology; after which Dr. E. Lyon led the Conference in prayer.

Naylor

On motion, the following Committee on Memoirs was appointed: J. M. Perkins, W. H. Carter and U. S. Ware.

Memoirs

In pursuance with an action taken at last Conference the Bishop requested that each Pastor hand to the Secretary a list of their Local Preachers, to be published in the minutes.

Bishop

W. H. Carter, Chairman of the Committee reported that w. II. Carter President Barclay will be pleased to receive the Bishop and Conference on Monday, 2. p. m., the 25th inst.

The Bishop appointed J. J. Powell to conduct the open- J. J. Powell ing religious exercises this evening at 7 o'clock.

The Missionary Anniversary for tonight was announc-

Anniversary

Adjournment

ed. Sermon to be preached by E. R. Gravelly, and an address by Dr. Ernest Lyon.

On motion, Conference adjourned to meet tonight at 7 o'clock.

### EVENING SESSION

Conference met pursuant to adjournment.

W. T. Hagan in the chair.

J. J. Powell

The religious exercises were conducted by J. J. Powell. E. R. Gravelly delivered a sermon on the subject of

Sermon Missions.

Dr. Lyon

Dr. Ernest Lyon followed with a very strong and forceful address on Missions.

Resolution

C. A. Lincoln read a set of Resolutions concerning the Doctor, which were on motion of A. P. Camphor adopted.

Closing

Hymn 919 was announced and sung.

Benediction was pronounced by Rev. R. A. M. Deputie, D. D., President of the Presbytery of West Africa.

### Fourth Day's Session, Saturday, January 23

Conference met this morning pursuant to adjournment. Bishop Hartzell in the chair.

Religious exercises were conducted by John M. L. Harrow

Minutes of yesterday's session were read, and on motion, approved.

Question Eight was taken up.

Question Eight What Members are in Studies of the Third year?

E. R. Gravelly

The name of Eugene R. Gravelly, was called. Having a certificate as a regular graduate from Gammon Theological Seminary, the Committee on Examination reported favorably in his case. He was on motion advanced to the Fourth year's Course of studies.

P. T. Barker U. S. Ware The names of Philip T. Barker and Ulysses S. Ware were called. The reports of their work were read. The Committee on Examination reported that they passed a satisfactory examination, with an average of 75 per cent. each.

On motion of W. H. Carter, they were advanced to the Fourth year's Course of Studies.

The name of John M. Perkins was called. He reported J. M. Perkins his work. The Committee on Examination reported that owing to sickness during the past year, he did not make the necessary preparation in his studies; hence he failed to appear before them for examination. On motion of J. A. Foust, he was continued in studies of Third year.

The name of James M. Gross was called. He reported J. M. Gross his work.

The Committee on Examination stated that he did not come before them for examination, because he could not procure the books prescribed in the Discipline of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

On motion of A. L. Sims, he was continued in studies of Third year.

Question Ten was taken up.

Question Ten

What Members have completed the Conference Course of Study?

The names of Edward B. Mitchell and John D. Stryker E. B. Mitchell were called up. They having been previously excused J. D. Stryker from further study, because of not having enjoyed any educational advantages, graduated from the Conference Four year's Course of Studies.

The former is an Elder. The latter is a Deacon.

On motion of W. T. Hagan, John D. Stryker was elected to Elder's Orders.

The name of John M. L. Harrow was called. The J. M. L. Harrow Committee on Examination reported that he had passed a favorable examination with an average of 90 per cent.; thus graduating from the Conference Four year's course of study. On motion of J. A. Foust, he was elected to Elder's Orders.

Question Four was taken up.

Who have been Received on Trial?

Question Four

The name of Alexander Tubman from the Mt. Tubman Charge, on the Cape Palmas District, was called; having been duly recommended, he was, on motion of H.

Alexander Tubman

H. Evans, received on trial in the Traveling Connection. He is a Deacon.

Question Eleven was taken up.

Question Eleven What Others have been Elected and Ordained Deacons?

G. W. Williams

The name of George W. Williams, a Local Preacher on the Monrovia District, was called. On motion of W. T. Hagan, he was elected and ordained a Local Deacon.

Question Twelve

Question Twelve was taken up.

What Others have been Elected and Ordained Elders?

The name of Alexander Tubman was called. On motion of C. A. Lincoln, he was Elected and Ordained Local Elder.

Question Twenty Question Twenty was taken up.

Who have been Expelled?

W. P. Kennedy

I. N. Holder's

Case

W. P. Kennedy, Chairman of the Select Number appointed to try the charges against I. N. Holder, for immorality, reported as follows:—

Committee Room,

January 22, 1904.

We the Select Number appointed by the Bishop of the Liberia Annual Conference to try the Rev. I. N. Holder, Presiding Elder of the St. Paul River District, in the said Liberia Annual Conference, for Immorality, after hearing the evidences, do decide and agree,

1st. That the Specification in the charge is sustained.

2nd. Being thus sustained, sustains the charge of Immorality.

Therefore we do agree that Bro. Holder is guilty, and that he be expelled from the Church and Ministry.

WILLIAM P. KENNEDY, Chairman, J. B. ROBERTSON, JOHN. M. PERKINS, P. E. WALKER, J. A. FOUST, J. J. POWELL,
J. M. L. HARROW,
JOS. E.CLARKE,
C. B. MCLAIN,
U. S. WARE, Sec.

Meeting of Laymen and Annual Conference Members At the request of the Bishop, a joint meeting of the Delegates to the Lay Electoral Conference, was held with the Members of the Annual Conference, in the Monrovia Methodist Episcopal Church.

Introductions

The Bishop introduced A. P. Camphor, as the *Ministerial* and Col. A. D. Williams as Lay; A. L. Sims, as the *Ministerial Reserve* and Hon. W. E. Dennis, as the *Reserve* Lay Delegates to the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, which is to be held in the city of

Los Angeles, Cal., U. S. A., on the fourth day in May, A. D. 1904. They were severally invited to seats within the altar, by the Bishop.

Addresses were made by A. P. Camphor, Col. A. D. Williams, A. L. Sims, W. E. Dennis, Hon. S. T. Prout Addeesses and C. A. Lincoln. Each was terse, eloquent and thoughtful in expressing the urgent necessities of the Conference. The Bishop followed with a closing address Bishop full of weight and instruction.

On motion of R. Boyce, Conference adjourned to meet on Monday 25th, inst., at 10 o'clock, a. m.

Adjournment

The Long Metre Doxology was sung, followed with benediction by the Bishop.

Doxology and Benediction

### Fifth Day's Session, Monday, January 25

Conference met today at 10 o'clock pursuant to adjournment. Bishop Hartzell in the chair.

Religious exercises were conducted by E. B. Mitchell. The Minutes of Saturday's session, were read, and on motion approved.

Religious

Ouestion Four Resumed.

Question Four

Who have been Received on Trial?

The name of Gabriel W. Parker, Jr., was called. The Committee on Examination reported that he passed favorable examination. On motion of A. L. Sims, he was admitted into the Traveling Connection on Trial.

The names of Dounce W. Hermon and John L. Barnett D. W. Hermon were called. In the judgment of the Bishop and Conference it was advised that they be permitted to attend the Theological Department in the College of West Africa, and there prosecute their studies.

Question Five Resumed.

Question Five

The name of Joseph H. Davis was called. The Committee on Examination stated that he had all the required books, and passed a satisfactory examination, with an average of 73 per cent. Being an assistant pastor he made no report. His character was passed, and on motion of F. C. Holderness, he was advanced to the Second year's Course of Study.

Negative Answers Questions 2, 3, 6, 15, 17, 18, 19 and 24 were taken up, and answered in the Negative.

Invitation

An Invitation from His Excellency President Barclay, inviting the Bishop and Conference to luncheon at 2: 30 p. m., on Monday 25th was received and read. On motion, the same was most cordially accepted.

Reports

The following reported their work:—F. C. Holderness, A. L. Sims, W. P. Kennedy, W. H. Carter, J. E. Clarke, Walter F. Hawkins, E. B. Mitchell, J. J. Powell, A. P. Camphor, R. Boyce, C. A. Lincoln.

Teachers' Reports

The following Ministerial Supplies reported their work: Thomas H. C. Clarke, Andrew Snorton, Jacob A. Hueston, Dounce W. Hermon.

Lay Workers

The following Lay Teachers read their reports: Mesdames M. A. S. Ragland, and A. E. Hagan, Mr. and Mrs. J. B. McGill.

Introductions

The Bishop introduced Prof. T. R. McWilliams, Mrs. A. E. Hagan, Mrs. M. A. S. Ragland, Miss Ella B. Dowell to the Conference.

Hon. James A. Tuning Hon. James A. Tuning of the Bureau of Statistics was introduced also. The Conference was very interestingly entertained with an instructive and historic address by him.

I. C. Sherrill

The name of Rev. J. C. Sherrill, D.D., was called. The Bishop stated that he had just recently received a letter from him in which he stated that he would be leaving America for Liberia soon after the adjournment of the ensuing General Conference.

The Conference instructed the Secretary to write Dr. Sherrill a letter of Christian greetings.

Dr. Luke B. Anthony The Bishop announced the application of Dr. Luke B. Anthony of the Presbytery of West Africa, for admission in the traveling connection, and stated that the application having been referred to the Committee on Conference Relations, will be considered later on during the session of the Conference.

Adjournment

On motion of H. H. Evans, Conference adjourned to meet 9 o'clock tomorrow.

Benediction was pronounced by the Bishop.

The following Ordination Certificate was presented to

the Secretary by the Bishop for publication in the Conference Journal:-

### Certificate of Ordination

NACCOUNT OF THE PARTY OF THE PA This is to Certify, that on Sunday, January 24, in Monrovia, Liberia, assisted by several Elders, I ordained John L. M. HARROW, ALEXANDER TUBMAN and JOHN D. STRYKER Elders. I also ordained the following Deacons: ABRAHAM L. BUHWALTER and George W. WILLIAMS.

I. C. HARTZELL.

Monrovia, January 26, 1904.

### Sixth Day's Session, Tuesday, January 26

Conference met pursuant to adjournment, Bishop Hartzell in the chair.

Religious exercises were conducted by A. P. Camphor. Minutes of vesterday's session were read, and on motion approved.

The following reported their work: P. E. Walker, J. B. Robertson, J. A. Simpson, H. H. Evans, J. A. Foust, Reports Mrs. F. B. Ashton, Z. B. Roberts, E. W. N. Valentine, E. A. Bedell, D. N. Baker, G. B. Grando, Alexander Tubman, J. T. Dayrell. George Stevens being absent his report was read.

The following Standing Committees reported: Committee on Printing Conference Minutes; Committee on Sunday Schools; Committee on Temperance; Committee on Epworth League; Committee on District Conference Minutes.

The Statistical Secretary read his report. On motion the reports above mentioned were adopted.

The following resolutions were offered by W. P. Kennedy, and on motion adopted. (See Resolution 3.)

The Committee on Publishing Conference Minutes presented its report, which was read, and on motion of Ulys- Conference ses S. Ware, adopted.

Statistica1 Secretary

Official Journal

Publishing Iournal

Subscription

A subscription to the amount of seventy-five dollars was taken from the members and friends of the Conference for the purpose of publishing the minutes.

Introductions

The following visitors were introduced to the Conference: Doctors B. W. Payne and Dingwall, Rev. N. H. B. Cassell, Rector of Trinity Memorial Protestant Episcopal Church, Monrovia, Dr. and Mrs. H. C. Faulkner, and Hon. G. W. Ellis, Secretary to the United States Legation, Monrovia.

Memorial Service The hour having arrived, the following Memoirs were read: John M. Perkins, on the life of Miss Minnie Willhoit, late of Barraka; W. H. Carter, on the life of Rev. S. D. Richards, late of Clay-Ashland; W. P. Kennedy, on the life of the late Rev. P. C. Tyler, of Upper Buchanan, Grand Bassa.

Ulysses S. Ware who was to read the memoir on the life of J. H. Porter, being absent, asked the Conference to accept the memoir he had prepared. Privilege was granted. After the reading of memoirs, G. W. Parker, Sr., followed with prayer. While on bended knees Wilson S. Naylor, S. T. B., followed with prayer.

G. W. Parker, Sr

Official Journal

W. T. Hagan offered a set of resolutions making the printed copy of the Conference minutes the "Official" Journal of the Conference. (See Resolutions on page 2.)

Board of Examiners The following constitute the Conference Board of Examiners for 1904: J. C. Sherrill, *President;* A. P. Camphor, *Registrar;* W. P. Kennedy, J. A. Simpson, J. A. Foust.

Report of Statistical Secretary The Statistical Secretary read his report, which was on motion of C. A. Lincoln, adopted. (See Table of Statistics.)

Treasurer's Report The Conference Treasurer read his report, and on motion of J. E. Clarke, was adopted. (See Treasurer's Report.)

The Treasurer was instructed to turn over all the benevolent collections for the Foreign Boards, to A. P. Camphor who will forward the same to the proper departments.

Adjournment

On motion of W. T. Hagan, Conference adjourned till

this 7 p. m. to wind up all other unfinished business, to hear the Bishop's address and the reading of the appointments.

Benediction by the Bishop.

### EVENING SESSION

Conference met promptly at 7 o'clock p. m. pursuant to Night Session adjournment, Bishop Hartzell in the chair. Religious exercises were conducted by J. M. L. Harrow.

Question twenty-two was taken up.

Who are the Supernumerary Preachers?

Question Twenty-two

The Bishop stated that B. K. McKeever had asked to B. K. McKeever be left without an appointment; and that he be granted a supernumerary relation. On motion he was granted a supernumerary relation.

Question twenty-seven was taken up.

Question Twenty-seven

What are the claims on the Conference Fund?

Ans. Four hundred and ten dollars.

Question twenty-eight was taken up.

Question Twenty-eight

What has been received on these claims, and how has it been applied?

Ans. Received four hundred and ten dollars, and disbursed in the following manner:

### CONFERENCE CLAIMANTS.

G. W. Parker,	\$50	Paid	to	A. L.	Sims.
C. B. McLain,	50	"	. (		"
Mrs. Tyler,	25	6.6	"	W. T	. Hagan.
" Deputie,	7.5	" "	"	"	"
" Cummings	20	6 6	"	6.6	"
" Moore,	25	"	"	"	"
" Sims,	25	"	"	"	6.6
" Davis,	20	"	6.6	"	4.6
" Brumskine,	25	"	"	6.6	6.6
Miss Brumskine,	15	4.4	"	"	" "
Mrs. Russ,	50	"	"	I. A.	Simpson.
" Draper,	25	"	"	"	
" Lowery,	25	6.6	"	J. A.	Foust.

\$410

Received on the above from Book Concern Dividend, \$200 " Mission Funds, 210

Question Twenty-six Question twenty six was taken up.

What is the Aggregate of the Benevolent collections ordered by the General Conference, as reported by the Conference Treasurer?

Ans. Two hundred and forty-five dollars and forty-five cents (\$245.45).

Question Twenty-nine Question twenty-nine was taken up.

Where are the Preachers Stationed?

Ans. See the appoinment for this year.

School Books

A. P. Camphor offered the following resolution which on motion of J. Foust was adopted:

Resolution

Whereas, the Schools of our Churches are greatly embarrassed for the want of text books with which to do their work; therefore, be it Resolved, that this Conference request Bishop Hartzell to make a special appeal to the Missionary Society that an appropriation may be made to meet this urgent and crying need.

> A. P. CAMPHOR. J. A. FOUST. A. L. SIMS.

Liberia and West Africa A. P. Camphor brought the interest of the *Liberia and West Africa* to the notice of the Conference in a very strong appeal for patronage.

Resolution

On motion of A. Sims it was resolved that all persons receiving Annual Conference appointments, be and are hereby required to subscribe to this periodical of the Church.

Further, that the several Presiding Elders and those acting in this capacity, be, and are hereby strictly enjoined to request all Local Preachers, Ordained and un-Ordained to subscribe for the *Liberia and West Africa*, before the vote is taken to pass their character and to renew their license.

Resolution Three C. A. Lincoln read a set of resolutions denouncing polygamv. On motion of A. P. Camphor, said resolutions were unanimously adopted. (See Resolutions marked 3.)

Addresses

Addresses condemning *polygamy* were made by J. A. Foust, Walter F. Hawkins, J. E. Clarke, Rev. Dr. Lyon, Postmaster-General S. T. Prout and C. A. Lincoln.

Complimentory Resolutions W. P. Kennedy read a set of complimentary resolutions which were on motion of J. A. Foust, adopted. (See Resolution marked 5.)

W. T. Hagan moved that after the religious exercises, address and reading of appointments by the Bishop for 1904, the Liberia Annual Conference will adjourn its seventy-first session *sine die*.

Final Adjournment

The Bishop announced hymn 810 which was sung. J. A. Simpson followed with prayer.

Religious Exercises

The Bishop delivered a very impressive and instructive address to the Conference, after which the appointments Addresses were made for the year 1904.

Conference adjourned sine dic.

J. C. HARTZELL, President. C. ALEX. LINCOLN, Secretary.



# APPENDIX.

### REPORTS.

### Presiding Elders.

### MONROVIA AND BASSA DISTRICT.-W. T. Hagan, P. E.

To the Seventy-First Session of the Liberia Annual Conference, held at Monrovia, January 20, 1904.

Dear Bishop and Brethren—In keeping with the time honoured custom and requirements of the Discipline, I present the following report of the District, for the past year. The Bassa District as constituted last Conference has eight pestoral charges under regular appointed pastors, that have done good work all things considered. I travelled over the District, my last round was October and November, and I inspected the work of each charge save one, Paynesbury. I held all of the 4th Quarterly Conferences and meetings, and closed up with the District Conference Nov. 15th. The reports made at the District Conference were interesting, and showed that the work in the main is growing in interest, in its every department and on all lines with possibly a few minor exceptions as will appear in detail from the several pastors' reports.

The Lower Buchanan Chnrch building is being constructed or in progress of framing. I laid the Corner Stone with impressive services, October 21st, size 40x28 feet to be shut in all around, and covered with corrugated iron, and ceiled inside with plank.

The Day School was taught regularly by Bro. John H. Porter until August, when it was closed on account of his illness, which illness resulted in his death. This sad event occurred Aug. 13th, his was a triumphant death. Bro. Porter was also Pastor of the Central Buchanan Church. N. B. Whitfield was appointed to the Church for the balance of the year, and soon after his appointment a revival broke out, which lasted 3 or 4 weeks with good results, and fine accessions to the Church. The Day School at this point is in good shape. The Upper Buchanan Charge was in a healthy and spiritual condition. The Hon, I. D. Summerville, Chairman of the Committee on High School building, aided by other members of the Committee has procured forty thousands bricks, for the first story, and the timbers for the frame of the upper story, and I understand it is all paid for. The lime, iron, nails, washers, plank, etc., will be furnished by the Bishop as his quota, and as soon as they arrive the work will be begun. For many good reasons it would be well to open the school before the building is completed. I am quite sure a place, or house could be found, to begin with providing a suitable teacher is found, to say nothing of the great need now of such a school on the District; it would be the saving of many of the children and young people in the Church, besides drawing others into her pales. This charge sustained quite a loss in the death of Rev. P. C. Tyler a local Elder in the Church, and a prominent member of the building Committee of High School.

He died last February after a short illness. He died in the faith, and while the Church, his family and country lost a valuable and faithful member and officer, a kind husband and loving father, a loyal citizen, in his death, still it was his eternal gain. His place is hard to fill, but we must bow in humble submission and say, "thy will be done."

Paynesbury just closed a revival with very good results.

The Edina Church building is nearly finished and will soon be ready for Dedication, and notwithstanding it has been in process of building for a long time, yet when finished, and dedicated to the worship of Almighty God, it will be a great victory for Methodism in Edina. The Day school is well attended, with over 50 scholars, and Mrs. L. A. Page, the teacher, has done good work in her school to the satisfaction of the parents, and guardians of the children. I visited the school and was well pleased with recitations and the progress the children have made.

The Farmington Charge was in good spiritual condition, and the brethren are struggling hard to build a new church. This is one of those charges on the District so very accessible to the native heathen, many of whom have been happily converted, and are members of the Christian Church. No Day school here but one is greatly needed. Brother J. T. Williams is a faithful worker.

Bexley and Hartford. The 1st is in good condition spiritually, but both buildings will have to be taken down and rebuilt, and to that end the brethren are working. The Sabbath schools at this point were in medium condition. Unfortunately for us we have no Day schools at this point. A school at Bexley would be accessible for the children at Hartford, as well as to the Native Brethren. The Church was wonderfully revived at Hartford and a good accession made to the church. Several native youths were among the converts.

Fortsville and Fortsville Mission. The spiritual condition is good. The Day school is a success under the care and tutorship of Bro. U. S. Ware, as will be gathered from his report. He has done good work, and it is in good shape. The Fortsville Mission Church has fallen down and the house needs thorough repairs. No one lives there now, the services are held at a private house. Sister Adams was compelled to leave there, but did so very reluctantly; the location is a fine one and I would not like to see it abandoned, but possibly it might be well to blend it into the Fair Mission, and thereby be made stronger and permanent. Hordes of heathens are living not very far from the premises, scores of whom can be brought into the school for training and instruction. I regard this point as being an open door to the surrounding tribes, and my earnest desire and prayer is to see the work begin and to help lay some of the first stones, as the foundation for a great and effectual work among the heathen.

Monrovia District is composed of eight charges also, and I travelled over it with the exceptions of Marshall and Mt. Olive, and inspected the work, and found that some improvements had been made during the year spiritually at nearly all of the points. I note specially that of Monrovia Charge. Brother Sherrill left in April for the U. S. A., on furlough. Brother S. T. Prout, served the church as P. C. till Bro. C. A. Lincoln came on the charge. His appointment was sanctioned by a revival that lasted several weeks, and closed with 40 or more accessions to this church to say nothing of the other churches that shared in the rich harvest. Bro. Lincoln has rendered both efficient and satisfactory service to the Charge. He will report in detail. The College of West Africa has been active and did good work, and

closed up with or in good shape. The accession of Prof. McWilliams has added greatly to the interest and importance of the College. The opening of the Scientific Department attracted the attention of the community and will result in much good to the College at Monrovia. The report of the President will show in detail the condition and working of the Institution.

During the later part of the year, Mrs. Camphor's health became so impaired that she had to go to Madeira Islands for her health, recuperation and medical treatment; there was some considerable anxiety about her during her extreme illness, but after spending six weeks or two months, she returned, restored to health; and the sadness was then turned into gladness.

The Kroo Mission has been looked after by Bro. Dounce W. Hermon and Nimly Taylor. A tornado took off the roof and a part of the wall of the little house used as chapel in April and it has not been repaired, the property not belonging to the Church, but they have kept up services in the houses of the members.

New Georgia, Johnsonville and Paynesville are about as they were last year. Mt. Olive and Marshall.—The Day school at Mt. Olive has improved but very little, and Sister Deputie is disconraged, her report is here, which speaks for itself. Mrs. Stryker has an interesting school composed principally of native boys and girls, just across the river on the Owensgrove side. Possibly it will be well to transfer the school to her and the amount. I visited this school the last time I was on that part of the District, and was very favorably impressed with it. Bro. Powell's report will show in detail its present condition. Mrs. E. E. Powell is doing a noble work in teaching the school at Powellville, and making great sacrifices to keep it up and to keep it going. The amount of (\$35.00) thirty-five dollars is not sufficient as a salary for such a school as she has, and the scholars are all native heathen. She is training up some fine native girls in house work, as well as training the mind, thereby preparing them for future usefulness. \$75.00 would be little enough to allow her.

The St. Paul River Industrial Mission School has not made the progress as could be expected or even hoped for; the attendance at the School has not been very good. Several of the scholars has stopped or have not attended lately.

The Mechanical department has done some work but in that there has been a falling off. Bro. J. B. McGill will report its condition, however. I submit that some readjustment is needed just at this period, and then undoubtedly it will move on again with increased zeal. It is a very important plant and we can not afford to let go or run aground.

In fine, Bishop I submit the District in good shape with exceptions made in the foregoing.

### ST. PAUL RIVER DISTRICT.—Isaac N. Holder, P. E.

Mr. President: Amidst the great array of difficulties which has confronted this past Conference year, I submit the following as my official report for the year ending January, 1904.

Careysburg and Newland Charge—J. E. Clarke, P. C. This Charge during the past year has lost nothing. Brother Clarke has undoubtedly given this charge his best attention. His all-aroundedness added to his usual energy makes him the central figure on his charge. The brethren at Newland have made some progress

on their Church building which has a tendency to establish Methodism more permanently at this point. The financial depression which not only exists at Careysburg but throughout the entire District has caused this Brother to receive but little support financially from his members. The spiritual part of the work has been well looked after and is in good shape. The Day school has been well kept up. Better information will be given by the reports of the Pastor and teachers. The entire charge is in a good condition. Brother Clarke should be allowed to rest from this Charge awhile.

Pessey Mission—This work being placed under my care with Brother H. L. Porterfield to assist me, I have endeavored to do the best I could. The old dwelling house has been taken down and a new one is in course of erection. A large native house has been built, size, 30 x 18 for the purpose of stowing away lumber at the same time serving as a workshop.

Material has been secured for this new building at the cost of one hundred dollars. The house has been framed with the exception of a few pieces. It is ready to be put up. Ten dollars worth of cut nails have been purchased for this building. I am glad to say that this one hundred and ten dollars worth of materials have been raised by contributions on this mission station. The natives themselves show an interest in this work. Some native children, seven in number have been offered to me to be put in school but having no place to put them, neither clothing to give them, I could not receive them. There is much to be saved at this point for God and Methodism, but like the crude rock from the quarry it must take means first and the Gospel next as the shaping process through which they must pass to fit them for future usefulness. By no means, dear Bishop, let this important station go down.

Bensonville—Rev. Riden Boyce, P. C. This Brother having received this appointment at the last session of the Conference was again like 1902 at Robertsville rejected by the Bensonvillians, but after much hard talk and explanations by me, they received him and they have been working along well during the year, and I can report this charge to be in medium conditon with one good Sabbath school connected with the charge. Arrangements have been effected by the pastor and people to re-build their church. The membership is very small but is striving to do the best they can. Some accessions have been made to the church, the pastor giving this charge his best attention. Brother McLain, a superaunuate, has rendered very efficient services.

Crozierville—A. L. Sims, P. C. Brother Sims has not enjoyed good health this year; hence he has not been able to give the charge the necessary attention the better part of the year. He had to serve as a Government official; hence the charge has been looked after chiefly by one Local Preacher. Being a very important charge it deserves good attention. I cannot report this charge to be in the best condition as heretofore.

The Day school for one half of the scholastic year has been taught by Rev. J. E. Clarke, Brother Sims not being at home to give it his attention; hence, it has waned materially. As Brother Sims was the better accepted teacher among the people I cannot therefore report the Day school to be in good condition. This charge is of too much importance to suffer.

Harrisburg—J. M. Gross, P. C. Brother Gross having received the appointment at the last Conference, did well for a season. Brother Harris, the Local Preacher

has rendered very efficient services during the year in looking after the work or else it would have suffered greatly. In connection with this work is one Sabbath School which is in good condition. This charge as well deserves being carefully looked after.

Robertsville---T. H. Clarke, P. C. This work is yet in good shape. Brother Clarke gives his charge good attention. The brethren are gathering materials to rebuild and enlargen their church. A revival of religion broke out here and many souls were added to the church, thereby strengthening the force of Methodism at this point. These struggling people need some financial help to assist them in securing the covering for their proposed new church building. I report this charge in good condition with a good Sabbath school.

Millsburg---Philip T. Barker, P. C. This charge being small and situated across the river does not give any numerical strength but holds her own and is in good condition. Brother Barker has labored very satisfactorily this year. His people seem very much pleased with him. There is one Sabbath school connected with this charge, which is said to be in good condition. A church building in White Plains would better accommodate this charge as the heavy rains in the rainy season prevent and hinder the work of the church from being carried on successfully. We trust that this matter will soon be accommodated.

Clay-Ashland---J. A. Hueston, (supply) in charge. Brother Lincoln received the appointment to this charge at our last Conference and served until I received information from the Bishop officially dated May 4, 1903 that Brother Lincoln was by him transferred to the Monrovia charge. At the same writing he---the Bishop---requested me to supply the Clay-Ashland charge with some other brother. Having no one else at the time available and after consulting the leading brethren of the district. I appointed Rev. J. A. Hueston, Local Elder, who had already been appointed pastor of Virginia to supply the place of Rev. S. D. Richards who died in the early part of the year. Thus brother Hueston took this charge with the assistance of Brother R. V. Richards and carried on the work. This charge somehow is not in the best condition and has been so for a year and better, the causes of which, I am unable to account for. The Day school seemingly went down under Brother Lincoln's administration there being such a strong tide of opposition against our entire church work at this point. I recommend that a zealous and strong man be sent there as pastor, so as to revive and build up our work at this place as this is an important charge and should be made second to none on the District.

Caldwell---William H. Carter, P. C. This charge still consists of two preaching places, namely: Upper and Lower Caldwell. We have two Sunday schools in connection with this charge. The brethren at Caldwell have laid the foundation for their church 45 x 29. The rock work has been finished. The bricks are on the spot for the other part of the building. They have done well this year and deserve much credit. The pastor with his assistant Sanuel E. S. Payne, has rendered very efficient services this year. The Spiritual condition of this charge is good and the work in good shape.

Virginia---Rev. J. A. Hueston, (Supply). This charge was called in the month of April 1903, to mourn the loss of their beloved pastor, Rev. S. D. Richards, in common with the entire district; and, I had to supply this vacancy with the above named Local Elder. This charge has been numerically strengthened by the results of a season of revival which added much to the spiritual upbuilding of the charge. I

report this charge to be in good condition with one good Sabbath school in connection with the charge.

Brewerville---F. C. Holderness, P. C. At the last session of the Conference Brother Holderness the pastor being away in the service of the Government, this charge fell under my immediate supervision. On the arrival of Brother Holderness after the expiration of six months, I at once turned the charge over to him as pastor; which post he has filled from July 21st up to the present. The last session of the St. Paul River District Conference was held on this charge at Burns Chapel. This charge is in medium condition. The brethren have done well in rebuilding Burns Chapel for which they deserve much credit.

Sasstown---Andrew Snorton, P. C. (Supply). This charge is in good condition. The only need is some financial help as the people there are not able to support their church and pastor. They have a very fine church building when completed. It is second to none on the District. Father Snorton labors hard at this point and is making a good mark for Methodism. I recommend him as a faithful worker on the district and would that there were many such workers on the St. Paul P.iver District. Many thanks also to our dear Bishop for his financial assistance.

Crawford Mission---Mrs. H. A. M. Crawford, in charge. I have not been able to visit this part of the work during the year but have received reports from Sister Crawford as well as seen her in person. This work needs assistance so as to make a success for Methodism among the natives.

Cape Mount and Talla --- B. K. McKeever, P. C. I visited this charge in the month of October last and found the Cape Mount charge in pretty good condition, temporal as well as spiritual. I attended the 4th Quarterly Conference and meeting and had a good spiritual time. Father Andrew Snorton accompanied me to Cape Mount on this official trip. I also visited Talla upon the lake. I found no church building at Talla and the people reported to me that there had been no official visit made there for a year or better. They received me very gladly the few of them that I found. I tried to ascertain the membership at this point and found a membership of of twenty persons. I travelled over the town as far as I could and held prayers with some of the sick members. I inquired for the site of the church building but the spot was all grown up in grass and bushes. The people expressed a great desire to have their church rebuilt and better attention paid to them. Brother J. B. Watson obligated himself that if the Conference would assist by giving the covering for the roof, he would secure the timber and other materials and rebuild the church as one is greatly needed at this point. The pastor accompanied me to this place and the people were very glad to see him and inquired the cause of his absence from them so long.

I strongly recommend that a church be provided for at this place. The people seem to be suffering for the Gospel. I report this charge in a good condition and further recommend that some provision be made for a day sohool for this place as one is greatly needed, it being a territory by itself without a Methodist Day school of any kind.

And now Mr. President, as to my own work as Presiding Elder I have given the major part of my time to the building up of the District as well as the building up and getting in proper shape the school house at Crozierville, Pessey Mission and the Home Mission Work. The last session of our District Conference donated ten doi-

lars to the school house at Crozierville and twenty dollars to the Home Mission Work at Heddington.

I beg further to note that death has visited the local ranks of our District and borne a way four of our members to their last resting place. Their names are as follows: Rev. S. D. Richards of Virginia Charge, J. H. Neal, Local Preacher of the same Charge whose ashes repose on the banks of the Mannah River where he went in the service of the Government; Jas. D. Weeks, Local Preacher of the Crozierville Charge and Isaiah Sommers, of the Caldwell Charge, who met his death by drowning on the first Monday in January, 1904.

We hope to have the school house at Crozier ille ready for the reopening of the school this year. It is a fine building with three verandas, all shut in, and good lot of materials on hand for further completion. None of the brethren gives any assistance with this building except Brother Sims.

The Home Mission school house has been covered and finely shut in from the weather. It was expected to have this building dedicated at the adjournment of the Liberia Annual Conference, but the Conference being early in the year prevented same.

The Sunday School Convention of the St. Paul River District is now supporting a scholarship in the College of West Africa and desires to put in some native children this year if possible

Thus Mr. President and Brethren, I have labored faithfully to promote the cause of Education as well as to bring to the front some prominent features in Liberian Methodism on the St. Paul River District. May God bless your deliberations. Amen.

### SINOE DISTRICT.-J. A. Simpson, Acting P. E.

The Sinoe District is historically known for its victorious triumphs and renowned achievements for Christ and Methodism, neither is it noted for being the Waterloo of disasters and defeats, but it is that portion of the Master's vineyard where success is attainable only by the most persistent and faithful endeavor of those who are therein engaged.

The past year may justly be called "the year of hard struggles," marked with a few indications of success.

I have visited all the Stations on the District, and held each Quarterly Conference and conducted the Quarterly Meetings including the Lord's Supper. At each station these occasions were seasons of refreshing grace so characteristic of Methodism.

The educational cause has been vividly presented and the importance of the work emphasized with some commendable results, especially for the work on the District.

The District Conference convened in the Greenville M. E. Church, Nov. 18-22. This session was one of profound interest and profit, both intellectually and spiritually to all present. The literary program was a unique feature of the Conference, and an ontpouring of the Holy Spirit crowned the assembly with blessings.

Two promising young men were granted license to preach; one of them is of the Bassa tribe and is a student in the Sinoe River Industrial School.

On the District we have 3 Traveling Elders, 2 Local Elders, 2 Local Deacons, 8 unordained Local Preachers, 5 Exhorters, 6 Sunday school Superintendents, and a Lay membership of 341.

The District as a whole is greatly in need of an old fashioned Methodist revival.

During the year a small revival was enjoyed in the Greenville Church and our number was increased by 14 conversions.

The following is a partial detailed report of the several Charges:

Bluntsville.—Rev. S. R. Miller, Pastor. This charge is numerically small, but noted for its faithful work and loyality to Methodism. Children's Day was observed and v collection of \$2.50 was taken for the educational work. The Pastor has wrought well.

Lexington has made an excellent record this year under the pastoral supervision of Brother C. A. Minor. The new church edifice is up and inclosed and will soon be ready for a dedication.

Brother C. A. Minor is a heroic worker in church building. We commend this charge to the favorable consideration of the Bishop for aid. The membership is small and help is needed, for a spirit of self-help is found among them.

Louisiana.—Rev. P. E. Walker, Pastor. For several months the spirit of division and inactivity found a home in this charge; but the Quarterly Meeting held in the month of June brought a change and unity returned and some work has been done toward improving the church. Children's Day collection \$9.00. The pastor has worked well.

Fishtown.—Z. B. Roberts, Pastor, E. F. Russ, Teacher. This station is especially for the natives, and the work is difficult. Brother Roberts was unabled to attend to his work for several months by reason of a prolonged illness, but the services on the Sabbath were kept up by an exhorter from the Greenville church.

The work of the Day school is also slow and difficult, for the native children are very irregular in attendance.

Since River Industrial School.—The pastoral work is executed well by Rev. J. B. Robertson whose fatherly spirit is a power for good amons the natives on the Since River. During the year we dedicated a thatch church at the Station and conducted the first Quarterly Meeting in that settlement.

27 boys and 8 girls find a home in the mission and are taught and trained in Christian civilization. Mrs. Robertson has taught the school with excellent results.

Greenville.- This charge is under my pastoral supervision. Much material improvement has been made on both church and parsonage. The spiritual condition is good.

## CAPE PALMAS DISTRICT.—J. A. Foust, Acting P. E.

DEAR BISHOP AND BRETHREN:-- The year has been to me a blessing, not unmixed however, with hardship and suffering. My wife and I have contended against evil forces, material and spiritual, but out of all God has brought us victorious. Mrs. Foust has been in poor health most of the year and is now here in Monrovia taking treatment under the doctor. Notwithstanding she taught the whole year except two weeks, when she was compelled to leave for Monrovia. Aside from teaching she has done all her house work, and wrote and copied my business letters and manuscripts.

I have had much fever but less than in previous years. However I have preached from one to two times weekly, officiating in all church functions, disbursed over sev-

en hundred dollars in building material and planned and directed the affairs of the Seminary, after which I taught six classes a day until the session ended.

Mr. J. T. Dayrell, teacher of Mathematics and Music, I am glad to say, is punctual and faithful to every duty. He takes hold freely and helps both church and school and thereby makes himself very necessary to the work.

We had a great revival in Mt. Scott Church and over sixty persons were converted and reclaimed to the Church. The Church is in good condition and grows in membership continually. There is no great wealth represented in this congregation but they are loyal and consecrated Methodists. They pay me a salary of four hundred dollars a year and for three years have made the record of paying up. The visit of Bishop Hartzeli on his way to this Conference put him in a position both to settle some important matters and encourage the people on the great works they are doing. The brethren have stood by me grandly and I have tried to do my duty by them. In the revival I had the support of Brothers Evans and Tubman.

The work at Cavalla has not been to say the least prosperous, however it has for the most part held its own. Owing to the heavy rains and press of work, I have been unable to visit them as I should. The people need and plead for the Gospel as we preach it. We have thirty-five members there. The Rocktown work is in fairly good condition. We have over twenty members there. The work at both of these places would prosper if I could have the time to visit them properly. I have also a good class of Christians among the Bassa people in Cape Palmas.

Barraka and Wissika Mission Stations under Rev. and Mrs. Perkins are in good condition, maintaining sixty children.

Barraka Station suffered a great loss in the death of Miss Willhoite who died November 28th, 1903. Our sorrows are great but we can only say, "The Lord giveth and the Lord taketh away. Blessed be the name of the Lord."

The work at *Pedabo Station* under the pastorate of Rev. W. H. Tubman is also in good condition. This work suffered a severe blow from the fall of Rev. David Johnson who was expelled from the Church.

The king and most of the people of this town are Christians, and Methodists at that. His son, the heir apparent to his throne, is an educated Christian young man. He is our interpreter to his people.

God has greatly blessed Brother Tubman in his work this year. He has had a great revival at his Church at Tubmantown where many souls were converted and reclaimed for the kingdom of Christ. He has finished and just had Bishop Hartzell to dedicate one of the largest and most beautiful Churches in Liberia. It was dedicated free of debt and its estimated value is four thousand dollars.

Brother Tubman is a man of God, a workman approved by the Holy Ghost and needeth not be ashamed. He is at work and always at it and makes things go.

Mrs. F. B. Ashton maintains a small station at her own expense known as Little Rehbo. This is also reported in fair condition.

The work at Bigtown and Pluky, a native work under the pastorate of Rev. H. H. Evans is in fairly good condition. We have here a good Church in process of construction. The walls, windows, floor, tower, roof and pews are in position while the pulpit, altar and ceiling are yet to be done. We have some educated young men and women who have married and settled there and are rearing Christian families. The spiritual condition is reported fair.

Sister F. B. Aston labors in harmony with her brother, Rev Evans, for the promo-

tion of Christ's Kingdom among Bigtown people. In fact she is most largely responsible for building and maintaining the Church. She also maintains a school of 20 Bigtown children in her home. These she gives good religious and industrial training.

Revs. John M. L. Harrow and Abraham L. Buhwalter came out late in the year though at a much needed time and threw himself into the work with Brother Harrow who was at that time building a new Mission house which had been sent out from England. We have in this house a splendid property worth \$4,500.

## Standing Committees.

### On Epworth League.

Your Committee begs to report as follows:---We are sorry to say that the Epworth League is a very small factor in Liberian Methodism. We know of but one growing and substantial chapter and that is maintained by the faculty and students in the College of West Africa. All others seem to be mere orgaizations without life or energy.

We urge upon all ministers and Sunday school superintendents to do all in their power to breathe new life and activity in these organizations so that the Epworth League may become here in Liberia what it is throughout the world, a mighty factor in the spread of gospel truth and educated and enlightened Christianity.

Respectfully,

J. A. Foust, A. L. Sims, J. A. Simpson.

### On Aditing Presiding Elders' Accounts.

Mr. President: We had the accounts of the Presiding Elders before us, viz.: W. T. Hagan, and I. N. Holder; and after careful examination, we find that their accounts are correct according to their appropriations.

We had also the receipts of J. A. Foust and J. A. Simpson and also find their accounts correct according to the amounts sent them for disbursement.

A. L. Sims, Chairman.

### On Temperance.

MR. PRESIDENT:---The Committee on Temperance call the special attention of all the Conference and all Church members to paragraphs 30 and 34 of the Discipline and regard voluntary total abstinance from all intoxicants as the true ground of personal temperance, and the complete legal prohibition of the traffic in alcoholic drinks as the duty of civil governments.

Respectfully submitted,

H. H. Evans, J. B. Robertson.

### On District Conference Minutes.

Mr. President.—Your Committee on District Conference Minutes, begs to report that the following District Conference Minutes have been carefully examined

by us, and found to be correct. Monrovia, Bassa, Sinoe and St. Paul River Districts.

We therefore recommend them to your favorable consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

H. H. EVANS, W. H. CARTER, E. R. GRAVELLY.

### On Public Worship.

Introductory sermon, 7:30 p. m., by A. L. Sims; sermon at 7:30 a. m., Jan. 21, J. H. Davis; sermon at 7:30 p. m., Jan. 21, by J. A. Foust; sermon at 7:30 a. m., Jan. 22, by Lee Anderson; sermon at 7:30 p. m., Jan. 22, by E. R. Gravelly; sermon at 7:30 a. m., Jan. 23, by George W. Williams; sermon at 7:30 p. m., Jan. 23, by T. J. King; love feast, 6 a. m., Jan. 24, Rev. J. J. Powell, H. H. Evans; sermon at 11 a m., Jan. 24, by W. S. Naylor; sermon at 3 p. m., Jan. 24, by Ernest Lyon; sermon at 7:30 p. m., Jan. 24, by W. P. Kennedy; sermon at 7:30 a. m., Jan. 25, by J. M. Gross; sermon at 7:30 p. m., Jan. 25, by J. E. Clarke; sermon at 7:30 a. m., Jan. 26, by R. V. Richards.

W. T. HAGAN, C. ALEX. LINCOLN.

### On Sunday Schools.

Mr. President and Brethren:—We your Communitee on Sunday schools is pleased to report the results of our labor. It is a truthful saying and often repeated that the Sunday school is the nursery of the Church, and should be looked after with great interest because it is the source from which the future church is to be perpetuated. And as this branch of the church is under the direction of the pastors they should not treat them with indifference, but should be deeply interested in the cause of the Sunday school; as we find that there has been some progress in the several schools the year past. And if the pastors still enforce the call and increase their interest then the Sunday schools will be a power in this land. Therefore, your committee recommends that this Conference impress upon each pastor the necessity of looking after this very important branch of the Church; and that all parents and guardians be requested to have their children in school each Sabbath. We further recommend that the pastors see that the school be furnished with the entire literature of our Sunday schools, as required by the Discipline of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Respectfully submitted,

J. A. SIMPSON, W. H. CARTER, E. R. GRAVELLY, U. S. WARE, P. T. BARKER.

### On Education.

The cause of Christian Education is one that we cannot too strongly commend, nor too frequently hold up before the people. For many years our educational work lagged and we suffered serious losses in consequence of this neglect. With

the arrival of Bishop Hartzell in 1897, there began a revival of interest which has continued until the present. To-day the outlook is brighter, and the results of the past seven years encouraging.

The College of West Africa closed its year's work with a good record, and we rejoice in the steady and upward growth of this the central institution of our church in Liberia. Reports from a number of our other schools show a falling off in numbers. Several of our day schools have closed up entirely. Among them we regret very much to mention Brewerville, Clay-Ashland, Kroo school, Manrovia, Owensgrove, Robertsport, Harrisville and Farmington Mission school. The closing of these schools reduces our enrollment considerably. We hope that something may be done to reopen these schools, and the work so well begun a few years ago may be strengthened and continued.

The College of West Africa persues the even tenor in its way. The enrollment during the past year was 119. There has been no falling off as to numbers, although the percent of older and advanced students is less than it was the first three years after reopening in 1897. The President has made special efforts to secure scholarships for beneficiary students and to build up a resident school. He has er rolled this year 35, all of whom are dependent upon the institution for their keep and tuition. The scholarship fund, which through the co-operation of friends abroad, the President has been able to secure, has greatly aided in supporting these students. The work in the school room has been faithfully prosecuted and good work has been done on the part of both teachers and students. The faculty consists of a force of seven teachers besides the President: Mrs. M. A. R. Camphor, Preceptress; Prof. W. F. Hawkins, A. B., Prof. of Latin, Greek and English; Prof. T.R. McWilliams, B. S., Prof. of Science; Miss E. B. Dowell, A. B., Prof. of Mathematics and German; Miss I. M. Sharp, English Branches, Vocal and Instrumental Music; Miss E. W. Payne, Primary Instructor; Mr. F. M. Allen, Supt. of Printing. Two important features of the year's work were the formal opening of the Scientific Department and the equipment of the Printing Office for larger and better service. While there have been some irregularities on the part of the teachers, occasioned by sickness, yet on the whole the work done by the teachers this year is such as to commend them to the favorable consideration of the Conference.

Cape Palmas Seminary was extensively repaired and renovated at a cost of about \$700. Under the Principalship of Rev. J. A. Foust, assisted by Mrs. Foust and Mr. Dayrell, the school is fast entering upon a new era of activity and success. We give statistics elsewhere.

The White Plains Industrial School has had a year of active service. Much and varied work is being done there, and the work is proving to be an effective force in the industrial training in the County. The Superintendent of Education has had the pleasure of visiting this work on several occasions, twice at the request of Bishop Hartzell to look after some property matter. He has always found the workers at their post. We give statistics at the close of this report of the school under Brother and Sister Gravelly. We regret that the Superintendent's pressing duties in the College have hindered him from making visits to all our schools.

The Committee has examined all the reports of our Church and Mission Schools. We deeply regret the embarrassment caused by an absence of books and other school supplies. The absence of suitable books greatly hindered the work, and, as in the reported cases of our school at Central Buchanan, under Rev. and Mrs. Rag-

land, and at Sinoe, under Rev. and Mrs. Simpson, forces the older and advanced students to other schools. The absence of books is a serious problem, and the Committee is unable to master it. The matter was referred to the Conference and the Bishop.

We are glad to say that at the special and urgent request of the Conference, the Bishop has taken cognizance of the many demands for books, and has promised to make a special appeal to the Missionary Society for an appropriation to secure these much needed aids to education.

We recommend strongly and hold firmly to the idea and original plan of regarding our Schools and Missions as "feeders" to the "College of West Africa," and hope that all of our teachers and people will work to that end, allowing nothing to defeat this object.

We call upon our Methodist people throughout Liberia to send their children to Methodist schools, and keep them there till honorably dismissed from them; that they make the needed sacrifice and help their children as much as possible in the matter of education, and we are quite sure that when these conditions are fulfilled, the Church will do its best in helping needy and deserving students.

We call again upon our teachers and missionaries to raise the standard of their respective schools by grading same, and advancing their students as fast as possible; that school-keeping be ample, regular and thorough and that quarterly reports be sent as usual to the Superintendent of Education; and that the Bishop appoint annually two Committees of five each, one to be known as Examining Committee and the other, Committee of Conference Visitors to the College of West Africa. The duty of the former is to be associated with the faculty in arranging a suitable programme for the public benefit, and to examine and note the progress of the several classes in the institution, and to report the same to the Annual Conference. The Committee of Conference Visitors shall visit the College at any time convenient to them during the year and at the closing exercises and public examinations. They shall report to the Conference their observations of the state and condition of the College.

The following is a list of Day Schools under the supervision of the Methodist Episcopal Church in Liberia:

Schools.	Enrollment.	Teachers.	Teachers in Charge.
Monrovia and Bassa Dis	strict, W. T. Hag	an, Presid	ing Elder.
College of West Africa	119	8 A.	P. Camphor
Mt. Ölive		ı M	rs. M. J. Deputie
Powellsville		ı N	Irs. F. E. Powell
Johnsonville		1 T.	A. Rose
Lower Buchauan	25		
Central Buchanan	18	1 M	rs. M. A. Ragland
Upper Buchanan	40	1 W	. P. Kennedy
Edina	77	ı M	rs. L. A. Page
Fortsville	25	I L	. S. Ware
Sinoe District, J.	. A. Simpson, Ac	et. Presidir	ig Elder.
Greenville	So	2 Ĭ.	A. Simpson
Sinoe River Industrial Mission			B. Robertson
Fishtown,	•		rs. E. F. Russ

Cape 1	Palmas	District.	I. A.	Foust.	Act.	Presiding	Elder.
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Cape Paimas Seminary	- 3	J. A. Foust
Big Town Boarding School 20	Ī	Mrs. F. B. Ashton
Mt. Tubman	I	J. B. Grav
Garraway 22	1	J. L. M. Harrow
Plebo 14	3	G. H. Gray
Wissika	2	J. M. Perkins
Barraka 18	2	J. M. Perkins
St. Paul River District, A. L. Sims,	Presid	ling Elder.
Careysburg	I	Mrs. A. E. Hagan
Harrisburg25	I	A. M. Harris
Crozierville40	2	A. L. Sims
White Plains School	2	E. R. Gravelly
White Plains Industrial School	2	J. B. McGill
Caldwell	I	W. H. Carter
Crawford Mission -	T	Mrs. H. A. Crawford

Total...........945 43 No. of Schools 26.

Respectfully Submitted,

COMMITTEE OF EDUCATION.

## Resolutions.

II.

WHEREAS, Liberian Methodism has been honored by the association of one of the foremost representatives of American Methodism, in the person of His Excellency Ernest Lyon, D. D., who comes to Liberia as a Diplomat of the great Government of the United States of America; and,

WHEREAS, we have enjoyed the rich advantages of Dr. Lyon's intellect as is indicated in his sermons, addresses and other various intercourses and Christian associatoins. Therefore, be it

Resolved, that the Liberia Annual Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, by rising vote, express its welcome as a Church to our dear Bro. Dr. Lyon among us in Liberia.

Resolved, that we appreciate the invaluableness of his services rendered the Church in the fatherland as a dispenser of the Sacred Word.

Resolved, that the Government of the United States and the Methodist Episcopal Church in America be congratulated for the unique appointment of Dr. Lyon as Minister Resident and Consul General to Liberia. That he and his entire family be commended to the Methodists and friends in this Republic.

Resolved, that God's blessings be largely poured out upon Dr. Lyon and his family, as a Christian Minister and officer of State; and, that his stay among us may be fraught with rich and marvelous results for the advancement of Christ's Kingdom and the Race, and he be permitted to finish honorably his noble task given to him.

C. ALEX. LINCOLN.

### III.

WHEREAS, we the members of the Liberia Annual Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church in session, have heard with deep regret of the introduction of a

bill by a member of the National Legislature to permit polygamy among the civilized portion of our population, and as we feel that such a step would tend not only to cast a blight upon our boasted Christianity and enlightenment, but place us without the pales of recognition among the Christian and civilized nations of the world with whom we are in friendly relations; and

WHEREAS, we the Representatives of Liberian Methodism which form no small part in the body politic nor in the political control of affairs feel it our bounden duty to give some expression on so vital an issue, which, if approved, would cast an appelling gloom over the heroic deeds of the fathers of our dear Country. Therefore, be it

Resolved, by the Liberia Annual Conference that we denounce the attempt to pass such an enactment, or even its introduction, in the National Legislature as calculated to destroy our religious, civil, and social institutions, and to bring us into disrepute with ourselves, our heathen brethren as well as our foreign friends and patrons.

Resolved, that we endorse the views expressed in an Editorial entitled "Polygamy Condemned" in the January issue of our paper, Liberia and West Africa, and commend the sentiments therein extended to all our pastors and people, as meeting our approval, and worthy of extensive dissemination among the people, especially in these times when efforts are being made to introduce an evil which ultimately will destroy the moral and spiritual life of the Church and nation.

Resolved, also, that we pledge our support to His Excellency our President Arthur Barclay in his vetoing such a bill, should it ever pass under his administration, or to any other chief magistrate to whom such a bill may be presented for approval. And our Ministers are called upon to denounce the passage of such an enactment from all our pulpits.

Resolved, also, that we call upon the leaders of the dominant political party, composed of the best minds and brain of the country to give their support to no man or set of men who shall advocate such a pernicious doctrine.

Resolved, that a copy of these resolutions be sent to His Excellency President Arthur Barclay.

Respectfully submitted,

Daniel E. Howard, On behalf of the Laymen. James A. Foust, Ashford L. Sims, Frank C. Holderness.

Attest:

C. ALEXANDER LINCOLN, Secretary Liberia Annual Conference.

### IV.

WHEREAS, we have heard with profound interest and profit the series of discourses on Systematic Theology, based on the unpublished outlines and lectures of Rev. Dr. Olin A. Curtis, Professor in Drew Theological Seminary, Madison, N. J., U. S. A., delivered before this Conference by the Rev. W. S. Naylor, S. T. B., a former student of Dr. Curtis; and,

WHEREAS, we have been greatly benefited by the clear, strong, and inspiring presentation of theological truths, thus showing his thorough and comprehensive grasp of the subject. Therefore be it

Resolved, that this Conference hereby express its gratitude to Rev. Navlor by a rising vote for the help and inspiration we have received by these lectures, They have been a source of inspiration and spiritual uplift to us all.

Resolved, further, that this Conference would be pleased to have Rev. Naylor prepare for publication in our paper, the Liberia and West Africa, abstracts of his interesting addresses, that the same may be widely circulated and read in Liberia.

Resolved, further, that we also congratulate Bishop Hartzell for securing the services of such an able man to accompany him in his travels; and likewise the kind friends in America whose generosity and interest in the Bishop made it possible to secure Rev. Naylor's services.

Resolved, further, that the Conference express its kind regard and affection for Rev. Naylor, hoping that his life and health may be precious in the sight of God, and that his life may be spared many years to ably present God's truths and to defend the faith.

Signed,

A. P. CAMPHOR, A. L. Sims, J. A. Foust, J. E. Clarke, W. P. Kennedy.

Mr. President, Your Committee on Resolutions beg to submit the following: Resolved 1st, That we highly appreciate the most faithful, wise, dignified manner

of our much beloved and honored Bisliop, the Rev. Joseph C Hartzell, D. D., LL.D., in which he has presided over the Liberia Annual Conference. His fatherly and Godly expressions of love infusing light and wisdom unto all and bringing us every year closer in touch with each other. May his life ever be spared and his health and strength precious unto God and kept for further future labor in Africa.

Resolved 2nd, That these expressions of high appreciation be tendered him by a

rising vote of this Conference.

Resolved 3rd, That we lift our hearts in gratitude and thanksgiving unto Almighty God in behalf of his dear wife, Sister Hartzell, and his beloved mother who willingly laid him upon the altar of sacrifice for the redemption of Africa, where for eight years he has been laboring earnestly for the building up of the Kingdom of Christ notwithstanding the malarial atmosphere of Africa with all of its poisonous diseases, yet they willingly submitted unto God who in the economy of His eternal wisdom directed and led him as He willed. May they enjoy with gratitude his presence on his return home.

Resolved 4th, That the sincere thanks of this Conference be tendered the Secretaries for the able manner in which they have kept the minutes and statistical accounts of this session of the Conference, and the faithful discharge of their duty.

Resolved 5th, That the sincere vote of thanks of this Conference be tendered the pastors, officials and members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, Monrovia, and Christian friends generally for their great hospitality shown in making every ar-

rangement possible for the comfortable entertaing of its members.

Resolved 6th, That we highly appreciate the faithful labors of Dr. A. P. Camphor, and the Faculty of the College of West Africa for their earnest labors performed during the past year in the Educational interest of the Methodist Episcopal Church and that we render unto this Department of the Church as Methodists our moral support always and that we earnestly pray that this Department of the work may grow strong in interest, power and influence competing with all other institutions of learning of a similar grade on the Western Coast of Africa.

Respectfully submitted,

WILLIAM P. KENNEDY, Chairman.

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